

Regarding raised bill #6666, Section 7

To whom it may concern,


While the number of children with autism in Connecticut has skyrocketed, the number of behavior analysis working with this segment of the population has also increased exponentially. However, school districts and parents continue to hire individuals that do not have adequate training or appropriate professional credentials. In fact many parents and school districts are still unaware of what kind of education and experience someone identifying themselves as a behavior analyst should have, and are basing their hiring decision solely on the claims made by the provider.

This is a much larger problem because school districts do not have a mechanism in place of vetting potential employees of behavior analytic consultants as is the standard practice for other related service providers such as speech pathologists. This is not only harmful for the children but unfair to the parents who entrust the school to provide the best possible care for their children. It is with these concerns in mind that we support bill #6666, Section 7

Sincerely,

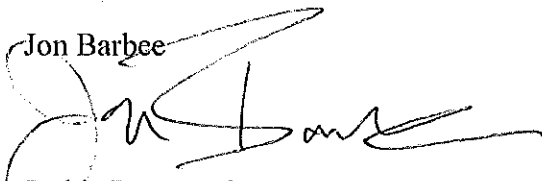


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